

To the Members of the California Legislature:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1253 because of the urgent need for the City of Soledad and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to address the waste water treatment issues in this area. However, I am directing the Department of General Services to enter into a long-term lease with the City of Soledad and not transfer this property until such time a CEQA exemption is provided in legislation.

This is surplus property and should typically be included in the DGS omnibus surplus property bill. As I have stated repeatedly over the past two years, there is no reason to apply CEQA to properties that are being sold. CEQA is properly applied when the use and zoning of property is changed. This transaction does neither therefore an exemption is justified.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger